



**WCFC Meeting  
November 17, 2010  
Lacey City Hall  
Lacey, Washington**

**Members Present:** Joe Scorcio, Jeff Beckwith, Sandy Salisbury, Ara Erickson, Jim Freed, Mark Kahley, Kathy Wolf, Brian Cramer, Jim Flott, Sarah Foster, and Scott Thomas.

**Members Absent:** Barbara Hollenbeck, Barry Johnson, David Nelson, Kelly Puntene, and Terry Flatley

**Guests:** Lori Flemm, Mayor Tom Nelson, Ian Scott, Kevin McFarland, Galen Wright and Micki McNaughton

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

**Introductions and Welcome – Chair**

Lori Flemm, Lacey Parks Director, welcomed the Council and gave a building orientation. Mayor Nelson welcomed the Council to Lacey. The Council introduced themselves to the guests.

Mayor Nelson indicated that Lacey City Hall is located in the middle of a forest. The Mayor loves to show it off to visitors because it is such a beautiful location. City Hall has been added on to three times due to the growth of the city, but they have kept the forest feel. The library is also on the same campus. Weather dependant, the Council will take a tour of the facility with the city's contract arborists. Lacey is just over 40 years old, incorporated in 1966 when less than 11,000 people lived there. Current population is over 46,000. However, the tree cover has only decreased by 5%. Stewardship of the trees is very important to the City's management practices. They are a Tree City USA community and spent over \$450,000 on urban forestry in the city. Every Arbor Day they have a tree giveaway and have provided over 22,000 trees to the community at no charge. There are about 3,500 city-owned trees, and 2,800 private trees along the roads they maintain. They also have a lot of conservation lands, especially along Woodland Creek, and strive to maintain salmon habitat.

**Agenda and Review of August Minutes - Chair**

The agenda was reviewed and accepted. August minutes were reviewed. Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Sandy. Motion passed.

**Sub-Committee Breakouts:**

**Legislative:** Tree topping legislation was discussed but not really the message Council should send right now. Focus on green cities/good health in Kathy's research may be the best message to build upon. Identify and connect with partners now. ECA deadlines need to be extended in someone's housekeeping bill to keep ECA on the books and not repealed.

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2 Ara mentioned the task force being formed for Urban Forest Vibrant Cities Task Force with the  
3 Forest Service and New York. We need a western representative! If you are interested please talk  
4 to Sarah. Ara will send out the link for the task force and nomination page. Kathy is interested in  
5 representing research. Sandy moved that the WCFC endorse a representative or representatives  
6 from Washington and the West on the Task Force. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff moved to  
7 empower the legislative committee to solicit, vet, and recommend nominations to the full council  
8 by e-mail prior to the December 15 deadline. The Chair will then send recommendation letters  
9 on the Council's behalf (drafted by the Leg committee). Jim Freed seconded. Motion carried.  
10 Ara mentioned the Alliance for Community Trees policy group; it's a shame no one from  
11 Washington is on the committee. Scott Fogerty from Friends of Trees in Portland is the closest.  
12 Discussion will continue at the afternoon break out.

13  
14 **Awards/Outreach:** Continuing to work on a meeting checklist for the 'local arrangements  
15 committee' for future meetings. Discussion today will include Council Lead for out next three  
16 meetings to assist staff in meeting arrangements, awards, and other components. They also  
17 discussed awards/recognition and making it more meaningful to the recipients. They also  
18 discussed recognizing groups from around the state (not just where the meetings are going to be  
19 held). They also want to identify the next three month's Council Communiqué topics and authors  
20 for the Tree Link.

#### 21 22 **Puget Sound Discussion:**

23 Naki Stevens, Executive Policy Advisor for Puget Sound for Commissioner Goldmark. Sarah  
24 gave background on the Council, and they introduced themselves and who they represent. Naki  
25 gave background on her position; she's been with DNR for about a year. Commissioner  
26 Goldmark has made Puget Sound cleanup one of his five goals. Stormwater runoff is one of the  
27 main problems and trees make a huge difference in attenuating the runoff. The Puget Sound  
28 Partnership (PSP) was created a few years ago and they have created the Puget Sound Action  
29 Agenda. It has 5 priorities including keeping what we've got, preventing pollution, injecting  
30 science into the process, and working more strategically.

31  
32 There are 71 hits on 'forest' in the PS Action Agenda. All of those were for rural/working  
33 forests, but not the urban forests. Low Impact Development (LID) had 20 hits; urban forestry is  
34 a big component in LID. PS Action Agenda will be revised in 2011, and they could use more of  
35 a focus for the strategy regarding LID. The Council will be able to provide feedback if they  
36 choose.

37  
38 Another opportunity exists as 2020 ecosystem targets are now being adopted by PSP (required  
39 by legislation). This includes orca, salmon, eel grass, etc as measurable indicators of ecosystem  
40 function. PSP will adopt the first of these in 2011 (eel grass, nearshore habitat, and acres of  
41 restored commercial shellfish beds). By July they plan to set targets for lowland forest  
42 cover/landcover/land development standards.

43  
44 Council should review and discuss the PS Action Agenda for the February meeting and consider:  
45 Engaging in revisions to the Action Agenda, participating in 2020 ecosystem targets,  
46 identifying funding sources (e.g., EPA grants?), and engage in Puget Sound Army Corps of  
47 Engineers related legislation  
48  
49

**Tour:** Council members walked through the forested parking lot of the City Hall/Library Campus with the two arborists for Lacey.

**DNR Update:** Sarah discussed activities of the Urban Forestry Program. Staff attended education offerings this fall. Both Sarah and Linden attended the PNW International Society of Arboriculture annual training conference in Tacoma. Sarah attended a meeting of the 17 Western UCF program managers in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was a very productive meeting discussing issues facing the West. The program managers also met Jan Davis, the new Assistant Director for Urban Forestry with the Forest Service in Washington, DC. Linden attended the Partners in Community Forestry Conference in Philadelphia. Great educational opportunities; a lot of information was gathered that will be shared with partners and stakeholders.

Community Forestry Assistance Grant applications are out; proposals are due to DNR on January 27, 2011.

Arbor Day activities are in the planning phase; please let Linden know if you are available to present Tree City USA awards on behalf of the Council.

**Tree Topping:** Linden shared the materials that have been developed in partnership with the DNR communications team. Council members commented and provided feedback. The materials are available online at [www.dnr.wa.gov/urbanforestry](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/urbanforestry).

**Report from Nominations Committee:**

WCFC will hold vacancies open for now and we will revisit in mid-2011. May be a good time to revisit the makeup of the board while we have vacancies (maybe add public works and/or land use planners?). Any change would require amendments to the Articles of Association (including State Forester and Commissioner approval). Outreach to other organizations is important. Send stronger message to Council members that have been chronically absent. Send letter to those organizations that are currently vacant.

**Meeting schedule for 2011:**

February 9 (Olympia – Annual Meeting with Jeff as Council lead). Jim moved and Ara seconded to have meetings in May and October. Carried. May 11 in Spokane metro (Cheney) with Jim Flott as local arrangements lead. October 12 in Bainbridge Island (Kathy lead) or Seattle (Ara lead). Scott moved to accept, second by Mark K. Carried.

2001 Officer Nominations – Chair and Vice Chair are elected at the February meeting

Nominations for Chair – Joe

Nominations for vice-Chair – Jeff

No further nominations were made.

Council Communiqué – December, January and February topics and authors.

December – Sarah – outreach plan

January – Joe – knock out knotweed

February – Ara – youth education k-12 urban forestry

March –Jim Freed- working with forest based communities

Articles are due to Linden by the third week of the month for the following edition.

February meeting- Provide a one hour work session to discuss recognition awards program.

Motion made by Freed to empower the legislative committee to review proposed legislation, solicit comments from rest of council, and make recommendations on the Council's behalf.

Second by Beckwith. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 3:15 PM.